



WARTBURG

TRUMPET

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 4

PUB. # 666-740

WARTBURG COLLEGE, 100 WARTBURG BOULEVARD, WAVERLY, IA 50677

October 10, 2005

Celebrating 100 Years of Excellence

Rising costs of energy discussed at summit

By NICK PETAROS
Editor-in-Chief

One week before Homecoming, Wartburg President Jack R. Ohle has changed his color scheme from orange to green as utility prices for the school could increase up to 80 percent from last year.

"I think you all know how orange I am but I want you to take a look at my folder," Ohle said with green folder in hand during his opening remarks at Saturday's energy summit. "I think it's important that we spend some time thinking of conservation and that's why I wanted to have this summit."

With heating prices set to reach record highs this winter, the president gathered leaders within Wartburg administration, faculty and student body together for an energy summit.

Originally the school's operating budget called for a 12 percent increase from last year's \$943,829. However due to increased gas prices as a result from hurricanes Katrina and Rita, electricity and gas costs could range from \$1,281,918 to \$1,490,829.

"I will be talking with the board of Regents on Friday about this issue," Ohle said. "We have put our heads together and began to discuss ways in which we can reallocate and ways ... we can find resources to meet the need for the increase that we are anticipating."

At the meeting on Friday the Board of Regents will set the budget for 2006-2007.

According to Wartburg energy consultant Larry Sorenson, natural gas pricing has risen from \$7.255 MMBtu (one million British thermal units) on Oct. 7, 2004 to \$13.375 MMBtu on Oct. 7, 2005. The increases in natural gas prices have been accompanied by increased electrical utilities prices, and the trend could continue.

During the summit, vice president for administration Gary Grace provided a list of 29 things students, staff and faculty could do to conserve energy. Among the listed ideas was limiting thermostats to 68 degrees during the winter and 74 degrees in summer for office space and classrooms. Other suggestions include closing the library and PEC an hour earlier and developing incentives for decreased use of natural gas, elec-

tricity and water use in Res. Halls.

President Ohle created a task force from the summit to effectively and quickly promote conservation on campus.

This isn't the first time that Wartburg has had to address the issue of rising utility costs. During the oil embargo of the 1970s, the college thought of canceling winter classes and extending school into the summer. However, proactive steps such as decreasing temperatures to 60 degrees and competitions between housing units to see who could save the most energy were implemented.

Professor emeritus Ron Matthias pointed out that over Wartburg's history, the school's use of energy has not been much different from larger society.

"Like the rest of our country, the desire for more has trumpeted conservation in use of energy," Matthias said.

Matthias did also mention that the school has demonstrated a thrifty spirit with regard to energy. From the mid-80s to the mid-90s Wartburg added seven new buildings without seeing gas costs rise to higher levels.

Editor-in-Chief Nick Petaros can be reached at Nicholas.Petaros@wartburg.edu



Allison Schmidt/TRUMPET

DRILLING FOR A CAUSE—A worker tests the soil outside of the PEC to determine soil content for future construction.

Livin' the Knight Life: Homecoming schedule set

By KRISTAL FOWLER
Assistant News Editor

Inspired students are encouraged to show off their art skills and use the homecoming theme Livin' the Knight Life to decorate banners and windows. The designs are judged on many aspects, including theme and artistry, and students can win money.

To help spread spirit, each day of the week has been designated for a different costume. Monday is pajama day, Tuesday is twin day, Wednesday is 70's disco day, Thursday is jersey day and Friday is spirit day.

Thursday includes a homecoming dinner in the Mensa followed by Kastle Kapers at 8 p.m., where the Homecoming King and Queen will be crowned. A pep rally will follow in Knights Gymnasium at 10 p.m.

Friday includes a reception and dinner in

Knights Ballroom at 5:30 p.m. There will also be an encore of Kastle Kapers at 8:30 p.m.

An early morning run/walk Saturday and homecoming parade down Bremer Avenue, are the first activities of the weekend. The Renaissance Faire begins at 10:30 a.m. on the Campus Mall. The Wartburg Knights will be playing Coe College at 1:30 p.m. in Walston-Hoover Stadium. There will also be a symphony concert at 8 p.m. There are several other sports events as well as alumni activities going on all day Saturday.

The weekend ends with a Homecoming worship service on Sunday morning and a band and choral concert, beginning at 2 p.m. in the Chapel, then moving to Neumann Auditorium.

Several returning classes have activities planned during the week as well.

Assistant News Editor Krystal Fowler can be reached at Krystal.Fowler@wartburg.edu



HOMECOMING COURT—This year's homecoming court includes: (L-R, back) Seniors Nicholas Wuertz, Anne Fattig; (middle) Jason Steege, Jess Wilke, Matt Fox, Todd Stanhope; (front) Holly McGonegle, Annie Reiher, Angela Ohrt and Alek Wipperman.

Safe Zone to sponsor National Coming Out Week events

By SARAH GUHL
Assistant News Editor

Safe Zone is hosting National Coming Out Week this week as part of a national event in support of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals. This is Wartburg's first year taking part.

Events include a movie at 7:30 p.m. Sunday night, "Sharing Our Stories: A

Brown Bag Lunch", from 12 to 1 p.m. Monday, and "A Sister's Story: An Evening with Michelle Gage" at 7:30 p.m. Monday. All three will be held in McCoy East conference room. Safe Zone training will be 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesday, National Coming Out Day.

On Wednesday, there will be a special chapel service during chapel time and a performance by singer/songwriter Sacha

Sackett at 7:30 p.m. in the Lyceum. Thursday brings "Homo Depot: Your one-stop shop for all your LGBT Community Building Needs," introducing ways to make GLBT students and allies more comfortable on campus.

Safe Zone member Rob Anderson said that Safe Zone wanted to have a variety of events that address a number of different topics. National Coming Out

Week began after a demonstration in Washington D.C. on Oct. 11, 1987, attracted 500,000 people. People held demonstrations each year and it eventually became National Coming Out Day.

"The intention is to create awareness and better understanding of the issues faced by the GLBT community," Anderson said.

These events are important in other ways as well. "Part of our work is

because it's a small enough community to have a chance to get to know people," Ramona Bouzard said. She said Christian values of a caring community play a part in her role.

"It provides an opportunity for members of the community to learn about concerns and issues on campus that don't have forums," committee member Melissa James said. Events are intended as

support for GLBT individuals, but all can attend.

"All students [are invited] so they can learn and support others," Bouzard said. "Sometimes we're afraid of what we don't know. This is a great opportunity to get educated as well as an opportunity for GLBT students."

Staff Writer Sarah Guhl can be reached at Sarah.Guhl@wartburg.edu

CONTACT

Office: 352-8676

Advertising: 352-8618

Send news tips to

trumpet@wartburg.edu



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Predicting Outfly causes pain in the neck

By COREY HELLAND
Columnist

It's the same thing every year. We all stay up late, assuming the big day is tomorrow. Tests, papers, or homework – it doesn't matter. We put it aside with the full knowledge that it won't be due the next day.

Rumors run wild like the squirrels on campus. "It's going to be on the 4th," someone says. "I saw the student body president going to bed early," another person says. "President Ohle's secretary says he's going to be around on Tuesday," you hear in between classes. But they're all wrong. Nobody knows when Outfly will be except President Ohle and Student Body President Matt Lamos.

The tradition that so many hold dear is getting on my nerves. Correction: It already has gotten on my nerves. There's so much hype surrounding a day that only gets us all even further behind with our homework than we were in the first place. Quite frankly, I think it's ludicrous.

The original idea for Outfly is ingenious; I'll give you that. It is supposed to be a time for Wartburg students to get together as a community. There are supposed to be opportunities for community service. There are supposed to be events that create a festival-like atmosphere on campus. But in the last couple of years there's been a breakdown in tradition.

Last year The Trumpet reported that scheduling difficulties prevented the originally planned carnival on the campus lawn to be canceled. Cross out on-campus events.



Two years ago Outfly was called on a Friday giving students a three-day weekend, resulting in a mass exodus for home. Cross out a sense of community.

Now, as a 4th year student, my faith in Outfly has disappeared. My professors comment about the number of first year students missing the early morning classes. I watch the fourth year students hit the bars every night, praying that the 12-page paper that's due on Friday will be postponed until the following Monday. And finally, I witness the library packed with students on Thursday night, all scrambling to get caught up with their work before Friday rolls around.

Perhaps living with Matt Lamos has given me a cynical view on Wartburg's fall tradition. He of all people feels the most weight of Outfly. All eyes are on him. Analyzing his every move. Asking him at every chance when Outfly will be. Offering him bribes in exchange for an exact date. And what does anybody gain from harassing him? He gets a big headache, and you get a bad grade on a quiz.

But I'll be honest: as long as Outfly is around, students will try to beat the system and attempt to guess the day. There is no concrete solution. Taking it away forever is unfair to the students and to tradition. Making it a set date takes away its mysterious aura.

Just try to keep in mind, fellow Wartburg students, Outfly isn't so much of a break from homework as it is a break from the daily grind. Although the sanctity of Outfly is lost for me, it doesn't have to be for everyone. Keep the tradition a break from class, not a pain in the – ahem – neck.

Columnist Corey Hellard can be reached at
Corey.Hellard@wartburg.edu

Alliance group is misunderstood

By DELFORD DOHERTY
Columnist

This weekend we took the opportunity to try and revive Alliance. In case you don't know, or have forgotten or are oblivious like most of the student body, Alliance is a student organization which stands to promote awareness in Wartburg College and within the Waverly com-

munity about issues of sexuality (heterosexuality, homosexuality and bisexuality alike), under the umbrella of Wartburg's diversity mission statement. This organization as it stands should be parallel to all other student organizations such as EARTH, International Club, BSU, SPJ, or Spanish Club just to name a few.

In the years that I have been here this organization has struggled with problems from membership, to leadership, to financial difficulties, to dissolution etc. Besides its many internal problems and the controversies circumventing its mere existence, Alliance has not been very successful over the years I have been here because our community has stigmatized it with the wrong images. Not to deliberately point fingers, but the majority of students have been successful in disconnecting themselves from this organization based on faulty reasoning (for the most part) about the image of the club and what it stands for. However, I will also cast some blame on past Alliance leadership for not taking the necessary steps to address this misunderstanding.

Along the lines of imagery, when Alliance is introduced to most students, it is typical for most people to ignore what it actually stands for (Awareness of issues concerning sexuality), by misinterpreting it with the



very controversial issues concerning homosexuality. If you are one of such people, then you are getting this all wrong.

Alliance is not an organization for GLBT students only, nor does it exclude heterosexuals. Its goals do not sing sermonic hymns to change your beliefs about homosexuality, nor is any of its programs geared toward alienate individuals, groups or people with dissenting views about what it stands for. Alliance encourages open-mindedness and stands to bring awareness with an underlining theme that says "love thy neighbor as thy self." This organization is an outreach, not a crusade.

As we sat through the very first meeting and the leader Leo Sweeting spoke of the many problems at hand and implored the attendees to pitch in their support, I could only fathom the importance of this organization and how 'we' as a student body can not allow this opportunity to escape from within our grips by letting this organization perish in our hands. Our student body is smarter than that. I implore you to show some sensitivity to these issues, not to change your views, but maybe to broaden your understanding of things. I implore you again to take the time this year to be an ally and try to understand what Alliance is and why it should be supported on this campus. Like Margaret Mead said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world, indeed it's the only thing that ever has." But if you disagree with the very existence of this club for whatever reasons, show some sensitivity and remember that it is not what you say that really matters, it's how you say it.

Columnist Delford Doherty can be reached at
Delford.Doherty@wartburg.edu

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Editor-in-Chief

Nick Petaros

Managing Editor

Allison Schmidt

News Editor

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Richard Podhajsky

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Roland Ferrie, Travis Bockenstedt, Sarah Jones, Eva Sersland, Molly Richards, Luke Shanno

Online Editor

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Lil Junas

Advertising

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PUBLICATION CALENDAR

The Trumpet is published every Monday of Wartburg's 2005 calendar year except Oct. 31, Nov. 28, and Dec. 5.

DISCLAIMER

Views expressed on this page are those of the editorial board and not necessarily those of the administration, faculty or staff of Wartburg College. Columns are the opinions of the writer and not the paper.

TRUMPET OBJECTIVES

The Trumpet is committed to accurate, fair and comprehensive coverage of campus events and issues that affect the Wartburg community.

TRUMPET LETTER

POLICY

Letters to the editor are subject to editing without changing the meaning of the letter. Authors will not be notified of changes prior to publishing. Letters must be signed, fewer than 250 words, submitted by 5 p.m. Thursday and related to current issues involving the Wartburg community. Letters may be sent to the communication arts office or emailed to trumpet@wartburg.edu. Please type "Letter to the Editor" as the subject line. All publication is at the discretion of the Editor.

ADVERTISING

Advertising deadline is the Wednesday prior to date of publication at 5 p.m. All advertising is through the Tower Agency at 352-8618.

POSTMASTER

Wartburg Trumpet (USPS #666-740) is published weekly during the academic year by Wartburg College, 100 Wartburg Blvd; Waverly, IA. 50677. Periodical postage paid in Waverly, IA. 50677. Postmaster: Send address changes to Wartburg College, 100 Wartburg Blvd; Waverly, IA. 50677.

CONTACTS

Trumpet office 352-8676

Letter to the editor

Dear Trumpet Editorial staff:

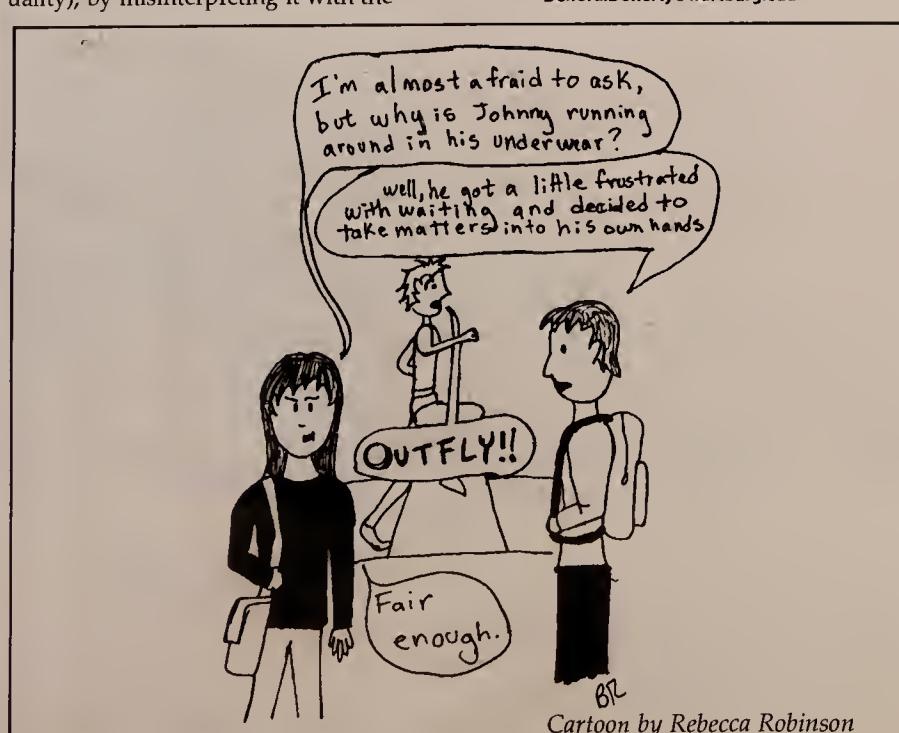
I think most of us at Wartburg like to think of ourselves as good people. In fact every time I have a conversation with an Admissions counselor about an incoming student, they almost always start off by saying how he or she is a "good kid". However something is not right, because some not-so-good stuff continues to take place on campus by some folks who assure us that they are a good person. I hope we are all up to the challenge of fixing that.

Last night a student shared with me an incident that occurred in the Mensa. She observed a group of students, taunting and humiliating another student simply because that student did not look or behave like them. My guess is that the instigators viewed their actions as good-natured teasing or harmless fun. I suspect the target of these taunts probably viewed it very differently. How much fun is it going to be for that student to continue going to the Mensa? The student that observed this was offended by these actions, and characterized it as harassment or verbal abuse. Unfortunately this student was at a loss as to how to address it, and feared they might become the next target. Still, coming forward to express concern was an important first step. I hope that other good people would not tolerate this kind of behavior, and more importantly might have the courage to say so.

Given the other inappropriate behavior that goes on, this might not seem like the most critical thing for us to deal with. Certainly there are bigger things for us to consider, but if we can't tackle this; why should we bother to deal with the important questions. I realize I probably come off as pretty self-righteous, or pollyanna-ish, and I have no desire to be cast as the morality cop. I would like to encourage all of us to do a better job of questioning our own behavior, whether it is about the things we say, perhaps jokingly, or the things we allow to occur without challenging what is going on. As a member of "the administration" I can certainly do my part, but it seems more could be accomplished if each of us dealt with things at the person-to-person level before they became major issues. I think that's what it really means to be a "good person".

I realize each of us is busy with our own lives, but before you move onto your next task, try to recall a time in your life when you were made to feel as though you didn't matter. What is it that we can do to be sure all members of our Wartburg community feel as though they matter on campus?

Sincerely,
Pete Armstrong



Cartoon by Rebecca Robinson

CAREER GUIDANCE—Sophomores Kim Breher and Mark Schultz discuss career possibilities with a Target representative at the Career and Internship fair in the Heritage Ballroom of the Saemann Student Center on Tuesday. The event was sponsored by the Pathways center and had several companies in attendance from several different career fields.

Roland Ferrie/TRUMPET



Bowman continues recovery

By SNEHA PRADHAN
Staff Writer

Doug Bowman, dean of admissions and financial aid, is in high spirits and recovering from his hemorrhagic stroke, which occurred last month. Bowman is currently undergoing speech, occupational and physical therapy in Covenant Medical Center in Waterloo.

"I have known Doug since the day I came to Wartburg seven years ago. One of the real strengths of Wartburg when I came here was we had the best admissions program in the country, and we still do. Doug is a caring, competent, committed and tremendously loyal person," President Jack

R. Ohle said. "Staff, faculty, alumni and friends have been calling, writing, visiting, asking what they can do to help. We've been keeping him in our prayers, and we are excited for his continued improvement. His Wartburg family will always be here for him."

The admissions office has reshaped its procedures to some extent but without any drastic change. Dr. Edith Waldstein, vice president of enrollment management, and Meredith Temple, associate director for admissions who is now filling in for Bowman as an interim, are making a combined effort by providing direct leadership to the admissions staff.

"Everybody has picked up the ball," Waldstein said. "All of the staff is sharing

the workload. The degree to which we can do that is a tribute to Doug's leadership and good work."

The Volunteer Action Center initiated a banner project for Bowman. It took less than a day to fill up.

"We were very excited about the turn out for the signing of Doug's banner," VAC member senior Travis Olson said. "It just goes to show that Wartburg is a caring community. This is just one way we not only claim to be part of a better community but we prove it. Signing your name may seem like it is insignificant, but the impact all of those names have together is indescribable."

Staff Writer Sneha Pradhan can be reached at Sneha.Pradhan@wartburg.edu

Webmail issues frustrate Wartburg

By LAURA GREVAS
Staff Writer

"Connection Error! Please try logging in later." It's the message that everyone on campus dreads, and ITS Director Gary Wipperman is no exception.

"It's just as frustrating for us as it is for them," he said.

While seeking a solution for the overloaded Webmail server, Wipperman and the ITS staff have also been working to pinpoint what is causing previously read e-mail messages to continually show up as new messages.

That problem seems to have

worsened since this summer, said Wipperman. Since the introduction of an updated version of Webmail in early September failed to fix the issue, ITS is considering switching e-mail systems altogether for the 2006-2007 academic year. That would mean balancing ITS' resources between fixing the system for the remainder of this year and financing a new system next year.

"It's kind of annoying

because you get excited to get new mail, but then you don't," sophomore Julie Ridenour said.

The other problem facing ITS is that many students need-

ing access to their Webmail accounts are not allowed onto the server due to lack of space. Wipperman says this is due to several factors. The amount of messages being pushed through the server each day has increased by roughly 40,000 since 2003. This takes up more space on the server, which means less space for those wanting to check their e-mail.

"I've never had other mail that has done that to me," freshman Kyle Huegel said. "ITS should be able to handle the number [of users] that are needed."

Wipperman explained that ITS has chosen to limit

the amount of people allowed onto the server at one time to keep the system from becoming overloaded and giving slower service. It becomes a problem at certain times of the day, such as Chapel time, when more than the average number of people are checking their e-mail.

Wipperman said much of this problem can be alleviated by simply logging off when finished.

"We are aware that both [issues] are frustrating," he added, "There are solutions, and we're continually looking for ways to work on it."

Staff Writer Laura Grevas can be reached at Laura.Grevas@wartburg.edu

Grandparent program builds lasting relationships

By JESSICA NYSTEL
Staff Writer

Wartburg's Adopt-A-Grandparent program is 31 years young and still going strong.

The program began when the Rev. Larry Trachte, college pastor and assistant professor of religion, joined Wartburg's campus ministry in 1974. Before instituting the program at Wartburg, Trachte's confirmation classes at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waverly visited shut-ins and residents at the Bremer County Home.

"A lot of students of our mobile society no longer had biological grandparents in the community, so we 'assigned' a 'grandparent' to visit once a month," Trachte said. "(We even) had a 'Golden Agers and Greenhorns' banquet with the senior citizens and our confirmation class."

Over the years the program has evolved and now averages 30-50 members a year. Today students visit residents at Bartels, the retirement community in Waverly.

Senior Abby Schaller, senior coordinator for Adopt-A-Grandparent, became involved in the program after her first year because she "wanted to explore gerontology for social work." Schaller said students are often paired to visit a resident.

"A nursing home is a place not a lot of people spend a lot of time, so we want to make people feel comfortable (by pairing them with someone)," junior Jeanette Bidne, junior coordinator, said.

Students are encouraged to make short, frequent visits with residents. Shorter visits are easier on the residents and help build a relationship. "We ask in the beginning that people visit the residents once a week or every two weeks," Schaller said. "It's hard to build a relationship if it's only once a month."

Schaller and Bidne both visit resident Betty Peters.

"It was a little awkward in the beginning, but we got to know Betty and she got to know us," Bidne said. "We share pictures, take her on walks, and talk about our families and college...she's very curious about our college lives."

Schaller and Bidne have visited Peters for two years. Peters says she enjoys her visits with "the girls," as she calls them, because it's the only time she gets to go outside. She enjoys seeing the flowers outside and just talking with the girls.

"I think it's very good," Peters said. "I know a lot of residents enjoy these visits...it brightens up your time. My friends also have (college visitors), and they're very pleased."

Pastor Keith Tomlinson, Bartels chaplain, has worked as a coordinator for the program since joining Bartels more than 17 years ago. Tomlinson helps match Wartburg students with Bartels residents he thinks would be "open and eager" for visitors and also coordinates an orientation session at the beginning of the year to prepare students to have "meaningful visits" with the residents.

"Our residents benefit from the visits and the contact with the 'younger generation,'" Tomlinson said. "But the students also benefit as they see life from the perspective of older, and sometimes very frail, people. They become more sensitive to the uniqueness of each individual, rather than just lumping everyone older than 75 into a homogenous category of 'old person!'"

Relationships built can often last long after students graduate. According to Trachte, Lyn Badje, '89, kept in touch with her adoptive grandparent, Earl Graf, after she moved away and even gave him a special honor at her wedding.

"When Lyn married, there was 'grandpa' Earl sitting right at the head of the family table," Trachte said.

Staff Writer Jessica Nystel can be reached at Jessica.Nystel@wartburg.edu

Burning Questions?

Q: Do we recycle colored paper on campus?

A: Yes. There aren't any separate receptacles for colored paper, however. It can all go in with the white paper and it gets sorted later.

Q: Is the word 'flammable' a word?

A: It is now. The word used to be 'inflammable,' which also means 'capable of catching fire.' This was put on children's clothing and people assumed that the articles would not ignite, so 'flammable' has been bastardized into the language.

Send your Burning Questions to trumpet@wartburg.edu

CAMPUS BRIEFS

REMINDER FROM CONTROLLER'S OFFICE

Today is the payment deadline to avoid finance charges on your student account. Stop in the controller's office to check your account or online at my.wartburg.edu (login and click on student, then student accounts).

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

A grief support group will meet at 8 tonight in the Lilly Reflection Room. If this time does not work for you, contact Rev. Larry Trachte at Ext. 8217. This group is open to students, faculty and staff.

ETIQUETTE DINNER

Senior Year Experience will host an etiquette dinner for seniors at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18, in the Saemann Student Center ballrooms.

The dinner will feature a full four-course meal, as well as insight into etiquette from program facilitator Luann Alemao. Information on dressing for an interview will be supplied as well.

The cost of the event is \$7 for off-board students, and \$2.75 for those on board. The fee to participate will be billed to student accounts. The deadline for signing up for the event is Wednesday in the Pathways Center.

The dinner is sponsored by the Pathways Center, career services, residential life and dining services. For more information, contact Rob Anderson at Ext. 8553 or by e-mail at rob.anderson@wartburg.edu.

SIGN UP FOR OUTFLY FUN

Sign-up sheets for Outfly events are posted on the bulletin board inside the HUB. Activities include a photo scavenger hunt, tug of war challenge and disc golf tourney. Contact campus programming at Ext. 8536 or studentorgs@wartburg.edu for more information.

HOMECOMING DRESS-UP DAYS

Show your school spirit by dressing up every day during Homecoming week. Today's theme is "Pajama Day." Tuesday is "Twin Day." Wednesday is "70s Disco Day." Thursday is "Jersey Day," and Friday is "Spirit Day."

KING AND QUEEN VOTING

Students can vote for Homecoming king and queen on Tuesday. Voting will be by eVote. The king and queen will be crowned after the Kastle Kapers production on Thursday night.

Singer shows off unique musical style



Photo contributed/WWW.SACHASACKET.COM

INSPIRATIONAL MUSIC—Sacha Sacket will perform at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday in the Lyceum as part of National Coming Out Week.

By KELLI KENNON
Entertainment Editor

This week, as part of the activities for National Coming Out Week, singer/songwriter Sacha Sacket will give the Wartburg community a taste of his unique musical talents at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Lyceum.

Female folk-rock group to bring energy on stage

By MATT POPOWSKI
Assistant Entertainment Editor

Raining-Jane, a Los Angeles based band, will perform at 8 p.m. on Tuesday in the Lyceum. An all-female folk-rock band, the four met in college and, for the past five years, played at various L.A. venues. In August, six months after receiving a full endorsement from Fender, Raining Jane ventured out for its National Fall Tour of colleges and clubs across the country to celebrate its second album, "Diamond Lane". Sounding similar to The Fugees and Fleetwood Mac, the band presents serious but comedic lyrics that declare a positive message.

"They have good energy and great sound," said Sarah

The Los Angeles native's music is frequently compared to that of Tori Amos', who, in addition to Bjork, Beethoven and Radio Head, was a major inspiration for his first album.

"The more labels you put on yourself, the more you restrict yourself," said Sacket. "The best compliment I've received is when people say they've never heard anything like it."

Sacket, who is gay, said listeners will hear music that is confessional, from the heart and about his own experiences. The distinction in Sacket's performances includes "bearing his soul, instead of being hot or following the cool crowd," which he says is rare in the music industry.

"My point regarding sexuality is that my music is not about being gay; it's more about including everybody," he said. "I often go to the hardest parts of my life and try to recognize what is special about it and go from there."

"College kids definitely 'get' my music more because they are more open to different kinds of music and experimenting because I play around and try to do what hasn't been done and try to keep it original," Sacket said.

Listen to Sacket's music for free at www.sachasacket.com and be sure to attend his performance this week.

"It'll be me and a piano and a computer up there, so it will be very interesting, experimental and something new," Sacket said.

Entertainment Editor Kelli Kennon can be reached at Kelli.Kennon@wartburg.edu

Glascock, director of campus programming, who watched the group perform at the National Association of Campus Activities (NACA) conference last year. "They got a tremendous response from the colleges present." ETK books about 80 percent of its 15 to 20 small acts each year at the regional NACA conference.

"I encourage students to come check it out even if you haven't heard of them," Bryan McCarty, ETK president, said. Look up Raining Jane at www.rainingjane.com or find the group's songs on iTunes.

The free event is sponsored by ETK. For more information, contact the ETK office at Ext. 8305.

Assistant Entertainment Editor Matt Popowski can be reached at Matt.Popowski@wartburg.edu

X and Y factor

Hey X & Y,

My roommate and I get along great. The only problem is that he has a girlfriend back home that he talks to all the time on his cell phone. I don't mind it during the day, but when it's late at night and he is fighting with her, I can't sleep. I would ask him to leave, but he gets pretty upset when he is fighting with her and I don't want to come down on him. I am sleeping through my classes now and things need to change. Please help me.

Insomniac

Dear Insomniac,

It's probably the best idea to not get caught up in these relationship whirlwinds, but don't allow yourself to stray too far. Let your roommate know that you are aware of his problem without looking like an eavesdropper. Try pointing out his change in mood lately and appear to have his best interests in mind. You can mention your lack of sleep by making it a "we" issue. For example, point out that neither of you have gotten much sleep and that you don't want either of your grades to suffer for it. This way, your roommate doesn't feel confronted and you've addressed the problem. With that said, get some rest.

Sincerely, X

Dear Insomniac,

I agree with you about not talking to your roommate after he fights with his girlfriend. If he is upset and looking for some way to take out his aggression, don't paint yourself a target. In fact, you might be able to bypass a confrontation completely. Try mentioning that you are having trouble staying awake in class. It might make him realize he is keeping you awake. If he's dense enough not to pick up on that, be direct. It is your room, too. Try approaching him during the day when he is not upset and don't come down on him.

Sincerely, Y

Send questions to: xandyfactor@gmail.com

Annual Kastle Kapers production to entertain on homecoming

By JENNA ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Wartburg's annual variety show, Kastle Kapers, gives students a chance to show off their talents.

Kastle Kapers is a dual-evening event that occurs the week of Homecoming every year. Students put together performances and then audition on one of three nights for the Kastle Kapers Committee.

A Kastle Kapers committee is formed each year to help

organize this event. This year's committee includes chairperson of two years LaRicia Nelson and Megan Roland, Bryan McCarty and Todd Stanhope.

"Auditions were excellent, and the committee had a very difficult time deciding on the performers," said Stanhope. "We did the best we could to bring a variety that will entertain audiences."

Stanhope also said that while student interest was down compared to previous years, there was still a great turnout for auditions.

Other performances will be by groups on campus such as Knightlighters Jazz Band, Dance Team, Castle Singers, and Ritterchor.

After Thursday's Kastle Kapers, this year's Homecoming king and queen will be announced at coronation.

Kastle Kapers will take place Thurs. and Fri. at 8 p.m. in Neumann Auditorium.

Staff Writer Jenna Anderson can be reached at Jenna.Anderson@wartburg.edu

REFRIGERATOR REEL

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
National Coming Out Week	Chapel, 10:15 a.m.	Homecoming Dinner, 5 to 7 p.m., Mensa	Student paychecks, Controller's Office	Communication Arts/SCJ Open House, CAC	Homecoming worship service, 10:30 a.m., Neumann Auditorium
W/M soccer at Simpson, 2 and 4 p.m.	Midweek Eucharist, 9:30 p.m.	JV volleyball vs. Waldorf, 7 p.m., Waverly	Homecoming Dinner and Reception, 5:30 p.m., Knights Ballroom	Parade, 10 a.m., Bremer Ave.	Renaissance Faire, 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Campus Mall
JV/varsity volleyball at Coe, 6 and 7 p.m.	Incompletes due to Registrar's Office	Kastle Kapers and Coronation, 8 p.m., Neumann Auditorium	Kastle Kapers, 8:30 p.m., Neumann Auditorium	Oktoberfest, 4 p.m., Field House	Homecoming concert, 2 p.m., Chapel
Raining Jane, 8 p.m. Lyceum	Sacha Sacket, 7:30 p.m., Lyceum	Pep Rally, 10 p.m., Knights Gym		Football vs. Coe, 1:30 p.m., Walston-Hoover Stadium	JV Football vs. Loras, 2:30 p.m., Walston-Hoover Stadium

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Showing Support

Balek's Friends Shave Heads To Raise Funds



Sarah Jones/TRUMPET

NO HAIR, NO PROBLEM—Junior Jay Balek concentrates on shaving junior Eric Hanson's head Friday night in Wiederanders. Eleven students shaved their heads and raised over \$1,500 for the Jay Balek Medical Fund.

By ERICA SWANSON
Features Editor

When it comes to raising funds, Wartburg students can be pretty creative, and some are even willing to part with their hair. To raise money for junior Jay Balek, 11 students shaved their heads in Wiederanders Friday night. Proceeds from the shave will go to the Jay Balek Medical Fund, which helps Balek's mother pay for hospital expenses for his cancer treatment.

Junior Matt McElliott came up with the idea to shave heads to raise money, and Balek's roommates and friends decided to go for it. According to junior Adam Crannell, "One day he randomly made a comment, and we decided to do it."

Senior Kurt Liske said, "The majority of us all live with Jay, and we wanted to help out [even though we are] poor college students."

"Our hair is going to grow back," said senior Andrew Eberline. "We thought it would be a good idea for such a good cause."

When Balek heard about the plan he thought his friends were just joking, but soon lots of people got involved and the fund raiser gained momentum.

Eleven people participated in the shave in exchange for donations from the Wartburg community. At first the group was hoping at least to ask President Ohle, but many additional donations came from students and faculty.

"We were very impressed with the amount of college students that donated," Liske said.

The group passed out a sign-up sheet in choir and band since Balek is a member and received almost 100 pledges. Donations were "whatever people wanted," Crannell said. Some paid a flat fee and others offered between one and ten dollars a head. In total, over \$1,500 was pledged, and the group has collected more than \$1,000 already.

Freshman Erik Lamp, a fellow band member, said the reason that he participated in the shave is because Jay is "an incredible guy." He also wanted to support junior Robbie McIntyre and senior Jen Boyens, who donated their long hair to Locks of Love.

Boyens, the only female participant, didn't know Balek very well, but she said, "It seemed like a worthwhile thing to do." She said she is "proud of the fact that [she] didn't stick to

the gender norms," and the obvious shaved head gives her an opportunity to talk about the fund raiser with friends and strangers.

Balek was diagnosed with brain cancer during his senior year in high school. His first surgery was that April and another surgery was last May Term. He was in the hospital for most of May Term and had to take chemotherapy pills that made him "really, really sick with not much of an appetite," Balek said.

For now, the prognosis is optimistic. Balek is on chemotherapy pills that he has to take for five days every 28 days. "So far, so good," Balek said.

Balek has had three surgeries, and each cost about \$33,000. Balek also gets monthly MRIs, so the hospital bills keep growing.

In addition to shaving heads at Wartburg, there

was a benefit last Sunday in Mason City, Balek's hometown. The Knightlighters Jazz Band joined with the local Feldspar and high school jazz bands for a concert and silent auction. The effort raised more than \$13,000.

When asked whether there have been any reactions to the shaves, Boyens said, "It's a lot to get used to. [There's] no hair in my face and the pillow's really cool at night."

Liske said, "There are 10 of us [guys]. We go everywhere together and look like a big cult."

Those who donated to their cause know better.

Features Editor Erica Swanson can be reached at Erica.Swanson@wartburg.edu.

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Rough weekend

By AARON HAGEN
Assistant Sports Editor

While all good things must come to an end, the Wartburg women's volleyball team's streak of wins came to an abrupt halt last weekend as they went 0-4 at the IIAC-MIAC border battle. Wartburg played four teams ranked in the nation and struggled, winning only two games.

The Knights hosted the 2005 border battle and were matched up against No. 13 Carleton College on the first day. Wartburg won the first game 30-25 but lost the next three 30-28, 30-25 and 30-25.

The second match of the day produced a three game loss for the Knights against fifteenth ranked St. Thomas, as they lost the first two games by a close margin, 30-26 and 30-27 and struggled to a 30-18 loss in game three.

The second day saw more of the same for the Knights. Wartburg was handed a four game loss to No. 22 St. Benedict in the morning by scores of 30-18, 30-28, 27-30 and 30-23.

The afternoon match-up highlighted Wartburg against No. 17 Concordia College. The Knights fought hard, losing the first game 33-31 before losing the next two 30-20 and 30-23.

"We haven't put ourselves up against ranked schools like that before," head coach Jennifer Walker said. "You can have some weaknesses in your game, and when you're playing a ranked school, they will exploit those weaknesses. We allowed too many runs, and they took advantage."

"You have to give the teams we played credit; they are good teams. We just need to find those areas of our game we need to continue to work on," Walker said.

Sophomore Ashley Rogers was named to the all-tournament team for her play. In four matches, she recorded 15 kills against Carleton, eight kills against St. Thomas, 19 kills in the match against St. Benedict and 16 kills versus Concordia. Junior Sheena Treanor ended the weekend with 40 kills, while sophomore Jessica Bates and freshman Kelsey Steffens each had 35 kills. Freshman Lindsay Murphy had 133 sets, and sophomore Ashley Steines had 99 digs over the two-day tournament.

The lone win for the Knights last week came over the University of Dubuque on Tuesday. Wartburg's conference win on the road kept the Knights at a perfect 5-0 in the conference and in a tie with Central College for the lead in the Iowa Conference.

Wartburg won the first game by just two points, 30-28, but continued to increase its margin of victory as the night went on. Wartburg won the second game 30-26 and the third game by the largest margin at 30-20.

Rogers had 18 kills in the match, and Treanor had 16 in the win. Murphy had 35 sets in the three game match, while Steines had 23 digs to lead the Knights defensively.

"They led us in the first game most of the way, and they were ahead in game two. In game three we came out and played our game and didn't give them a chance," Walker said. "This team is starting to figure out who they are as a team. I think we're getting more consistent within games, but game to game, we still don't have the consistency that we need."

This week Wartburg, now 14-11 overall, will host Coe College for Homecoming week. The match is set for 7:30 Tuesday night in Knights Gymnasium.

Assistant Sports Editor Aaron Hagen can be reached at Aaron.Hagen@wartburg.edu



Luke Shanno/TRUMPET

SPIKER—Junior Sheena Treanor goes for one of her 40 kills for the tournament during the Border Battle last weekend.

Loss ends season

By JOSIAH BRANDT
Sports Writer

Traveling to Cedar Rapids to compete in the Iowa Conference Individual Tournament, the Knights women's tennis team concluded the 2005 season last weekend.

Sophomore Amanda Barkema turned in the highest finish for the Knights placing 5th at No. 1 singles. After falling in the first round of play, Barkema put up 6-4, 6-3 and 6-3, 7-5 victories to gain 5th place.

"I was really happy with the way Amanda played all year long. She played well all year long and played well at conference to get that fifth place spot," head coach Jim Willis said.

Junior Jodie Pearson was close behind with a sixth place finish at No. 3 singles. Pearson won her consolation match 6-1, 6-1 before falling 6-1, 6-3 in the fifth place match.

All of the Knights' doubles teams placed seventh for the meet.

Overall, the Knights placed 7th as a team as they scored 30 points. They finished ahead of Buena Vista and Dubuque, who scored 15 and 12 points, respectively.

"It was kind of disappointing to come out as the seventh place team in the conference. We beat Loras during the year, but couldn't quite pull it out at conference," Willis said.

With a seventh place finish and the entire team returning in 2006, the Knights look to move up in the ranks next year. Pearson is the lone junior on this year's squad along with five sophomores and five freshman that round out the team this season.

"I think we have a lot of room to improve for next year. Everyone is coming back and I am excited to see what we can do with another year of experience under our belts," Willis said.

Sports Writer Josiah Brandt can be reached at Josiah.Brandt@wartburg.edu

Undefeated week for men

By ABBY SHOWALTER
Sports Writer

The Men's soccer team captains know what it takes to lead their team to victory. All three stepped up big this week to push the Knights to a 3-0 start in the conference.

Senior captain Zach Prieve scored the winning goal in a 2-1 win over Coe College on Saturday.

The Knights first goal of the match did not come until early in the second half from junior forward Harrison Kibombo-Lugujjo. Coe answered, tying up the score 1-1. Then senior captain Zach Prieve stepped up to finish the game.

"I was in the right place at the right time," Prieve said.

Friday night the Knights took on conference opponent University of Dubuque. Wartburg came away with a 6-1 victory. Senior captain Scott

Hill assisted on two of the six goals. Hill currently leads the conference in assists with a total of nine.

"Playing a good ball is just as important as scoring," Hill said.

"Scott gets the ball to the right people," head coach Jim Conlon said. "Sometimes the setup is harder than the finish."

The Knights got things rolling in the first half with three goals to take a halftime lead.

Wartburg continued controlling the game into the second half with three more goals to take the 6-1 win.

The Knights opened the conference season Tuesday with a victory over Buena Vista on their home turf. On a cold night, the men converted for a 6-2 win.

Buena Vista struck first with an early goal. Sophomore Casey Johnson responded by scoring later in the half. Kibombo-Lugujjo added another goal to end the first half.

Wartburg came out in a scor-

ing frenzy in the second half and three of the four second half goals occurred within the first five minutes. Junior Jon Hinke started the scoring run and sophomore Joe Hoeksema assisted on the next two goals by Hill and junior Jake Best. The Beavers responded minutes later with another goal. Kibombo-Lugujjo ended the game with another goal assisted by freshman Alexi Schlesinger.

"Going 3-0 this week really helps to build our confidence," Hill said.

"The games will keep getting more difficult as we go," Prieve said. "Teams are going to be gunning for us now."

The men's team will continue to build on its 12-1 overall record as they start the week playing at 4 p.m. on Tuesday at home. The men end the week playing at 2 p.m. on Saturday at home.

Sports Writer Abby Showalter can be reached at Abby.Showalter@wartburg.edu

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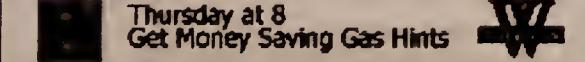
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Luke Shanno/Trumpet

KEEPING STRIDE—Senior Bret Larson jogs to catch the leaders.

Soccer wins easy

By SARA ROBERTS
Sports Writer

The Wartburg women's soccer team remained undefeated in conference after beating Buena Vista and Coe last week.

The Knights took on Coe College in Cedar Rapids Saturday and won 7-1. In the first minute of play, freshman Rachel Oswald put the Knights up 1-0 and finished the game with three goals.

"Our main focus for the game was unity and we accomplished that," Oswald said. "We finished the opportunities we created for ourselves."

Freshman Jamie Frederick and sophomores Katelyn Gannon and Andi Hudgens each had a goal. The Knights again lost their shut-out to a penalty kick. Kohawk Jenny McArdle put the penalty kick in at the 32nd minute.

"The penalty kicks are a trend we need to stop," sophomore goalkeeper Jessica Archer said. "Sometimes they're going to

happen, but we've had a lot and that's unacceptable if we want to continue to compete at a high level."

The Knights dominated in a 6-0 win over conference opponent Buena Vista Wednesday night in Waverly. Senior Jessica Pfeiffer put in consecutive goals.

"We climbed up a hill and gradually got better throughout the game," assistant coach Tiffany Treanor said. "It was hard for us to get up and ready for the game but we did it."

Oswald had two goals while junior Cali Cook and sophomore Amanda Clayton each added one. The win moves Wartburg one step closer to an IIAC title.

"In order for us to win conference we need to come out like we have in the last few games — with a lot of heart and intensity," Archer said.

The Knights continue play against undefeated IIAC opponent Simpson at home Tuesday. The game starts at 2 p.m.

Sports Writer Sara Roberts can be reached at Sara.Roberts@wartburg.edu

Cross country teams win Dan Huston Invite

By BEN CARLSON
Sports Writer

The Wartburg cross country teams hosted the Dan Huston Invitational Saturday. Once again the meet was held using the World Cross Country format, with races of 4K and 6K for the women and 4K and 8K for the men.

In the women's 4K race, junior Jill Wagaman led the way again, placing 2nd in a time of 14:56. Just behind her was freshman Nicole Calabrese (3rd, 14:59).

The women's 6K race featured a strong front pack of Wartburg runners. Freshman Emily VanOosbree placed 10th with a time of 23:59. Following her into the finish chute were sophomores Julie Ridenour (11th, 24:01) and Marcy Rahn (12th, 24:02).

The Wartburg women took 2nd place in the 4K and 4th place in the 6K. Using the World Cross Country rules, team scores are combined from both races, which gave the overall team title to the Knights.

The men's 4K squad was led by senior Keith Solterson

who defeated the rest of the field with a time of 12:10. Rounding out the top three for the Knights were sophomore Andy Hodge (4th, 12:22) and junior Kevin Balster (8th, 12:34).

In the final 8K race, the men posted many impressive performances. Pacing the men was junior Patrick Johnson in 5th place with a time of 25:57. Freshman Brian Chenoweth (12th, 26:26) and sophomore Lucas Tjosvold (13th, 26:29) led the chase pack of Wartburg Knights.

The men's 4K squad won their race while the 8K squad took 2nd, giving the Knights the overall team title.

"It was a lot of fun to race in front of the home crowd," senior Justin Brincks said. "We had a great day with a lot of impressive performances. Next weekend should be even better."

The Wartburg harriers will travel next Saturday to LaCrosse, Wis. in their final showing before the IIAC meet.

Sports Writer Ben Carlson can be reached at Benjamin.Carlson@wartburg.edu

Fast start spurs gridders

By NICK PETAROS
Editor-in-Chief

Strong first half play guided Wartburg football to its first road win of the season Saturday at the University of Dubuque. The Knights sprinted off to a 29-0 first half lead against the 1-3 Spartans and survived the second half, winning 29-15.

Strong defense triggered Wartburg's first half attack against the Spartans. The Knight defense put Dubuque three and out on its opening drive.

Capitalizing on field position, senior quarterback Reed Hoskins connected with sophomore Kyle Duchman off a rocket screen for a 19-yard score, capping a five-play, 55-yard touchdown drive.

On Dubuque's first play of its next drive, the ball was snapped over the quarterback's head for a safety, giving Wartburg a 9-0 lead.

After another quick defensive stop, Hoskins marched the Knights 74 yards downfield, connecting with senior fullback Ben Thompson for 14 yards and freshman Josh Faaborg for 13 and 21-yard gains,

including the score.

Wartburg continued to pour the points on during its next two possessions. Following a missed Dubuque field goal, Hoskins connected with Thompson for a five-yard score, capping off a nine play 80-yard drive. A missed extra point by Spencer Herzberg made the score 22-0.

Senior defensive line-man Noah Junge intercepted the ball on the ensuing

drive to set up the Knights at the Spartan 37-yard line. From there Hoskins connected with junior receiver Brandon Vinzant on a 35-yard pass. Thomson punched the ball in from the 1-yard line and Herzberg made the extra point for a 29-0 halftime lead.

The second half was all Spartans as the University of Dubuque took advantage of a Wartburg fumble, going 17 yards for its first score of the game. The Spartans then blocked Herzberg's punt and the Knights recovered the ball in the end zone for the safety. Dubuque's final score of the game came in the fourth quarter off a 24-yard touchdown pass.

"We definitely got off to a fast start and took control of the game right away,

which hasn't happened in our previous road games," head coach Rick Willis said. "When you're ahead like that at the half, you hope you can maintain and keep focus and we didn't go out and get the third quarter started the way we needed to. We allowed them to get some excitement and momentum and sort of get back into the game."

The win over Dubuque sets the stage for a Homecoming showdown against undefeated Coe College at 1:30 p.m. Oct. 15 in Walston-Hoover stadium.

As he begins to examine what challenges Coe will present, Willis believes the teams are matched up even enough for execution to be a deciding factor.

"We just have to play consistently for a game in all three phases. In big games like this it's about not making mistakes like turnovers and penalties," Willis said. "We've got to step up and make the plays in key situations. The team that does these things is the one that's going to win."

Editor-in-Chief Nick Petaros can be reached at Nicholas.Petaros@wartburg.edu

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Golfers win IIAC by 69 strokes

Allison Schmidt/TRUMPET

OFF THE TEE — Senior Erin Dohlman topped the IIAC tournament field by 15 strokes and led the Knights to a second straight team title.

By ALLISON SCHMIDT
Managing Editor

All five members of the Wartburg women's golf team earned all-conference honors to lead the team to its second straight IIAC championship title by a record-setting 69-stroke margin Saturday at Finkbine Golf Course in Iowa City. Senior Erin Dohlman also became Wartburg's first-ever individual medalist, taking first place by 15 strokes.

"To have all five players finish in the top 10 was just a credit to the team and to their work habits," coach Oliver Drake said. "What's more important than our margin of victory is that we continued to build our lead each day."

Friday the Knights added 30 strokes to the 29-stroke lead they built during the first round of play Sept. 30 and Oct. 1 at Pheasant Ridge Golf Course in Cedar Falls.

With a 59-stroke lead going into Saturday, the team topped the nine-team field by another 10 strokes to finish the 72-hole championship with a 1304, 69 strokes ahead of runner-up Buena Vista at 1373. Simpson took third at 1378, while Loras finished fourth at 1381.

After finishing third individually last year and placing fifth in 2003 and 2002, Dohlman led after each round of this year's tournament. Her total of 314 is the lowest total since the IIAC went to a 72-hole championship in 2003.

"Erin came into the year as an all-American, and she definitely showed that she is one of the best, if not the best, in the nation right now," Drake said. "She totally dominated the conference, and that was awesome to see. She set the tone for the team: complete domination."

Dohlman said winning conference was one of her three goals of the year, and she was happy with her per-

formance.

"Saturday definitely wasn't my best showing," she said, "but overall I'm very happy with the way I played. I played my best golf during the end of the year, and I think after four years I finally deserve it."

Dohlman's efforts were supported by four teammates who all finished in the top seven. It was also the first time in conference history teammates had four of the top five finishes.

Tied for third place with totals of 333, senior Bre Pleggenkuhle and juniors Andrea Schiltz and Megan Cress went into a sudden death playoff to decide third place. Freshman Kate Thompson also had to play off for seventh place against Central's Sharlynne Hoekstra after both finished at 336.

Thompson took a par on the first playoff hole to take outright seventh place. The trio of Pleggenkuhle, Schiltz and Cress followed in a battle for third.

"It was really exciting in the playoff," Schiltz said. "It's usually all of us watching Dohlman in a playoff. Instead, it was Dohlman watching all of us. We thought it was fun to play with our teammates."

After hitting her second shot into a greenside bunker, Pleggenkuhle hit a sand shot and watched as it rolled into the hole for birdie.

"I was in disbelief," she said. "My luck hadn't been there all day, but I was really excited."

Pleggenkuhle took outright third place, while Schiltz and Cress tied and continued on to a second playoff hole. Schiltz ended up taking fourth place, and Cress finished fifth.

The Knights gave credit to Drake, in his first year coaching women's golf, for his efforts this fall.



ALL SMILES — Senior Bre Pleggenkuhle hugs coach Oliver Drake after chipping in for birdie in a playoff to take third place individually.

Wartburg Leaderboard

Erin Dohlman	1st Place	77 73 78 86	314
Breanne Pleggenkuhle	3rd Place*	82 80 87 84	333
Andrea Schiltz	4th Place*	82 79 82 90	333
Megan Cress	5th Place*	86 81 83 83	333
Kate Thompson	7th Place*	84 77 84 91	333

* Place determined in playoff

"Had we not had Coach Drake, I don't think we would've been as successful or as motivated this year," Schiltz said.

Thompson agreed and said, "Most other coaches try to coach on technical ability, but [Drake] is a motivator and really coaches us on mental ability."

The Knights now look to make a second-straight appearance at the national tournament in the spring.

"If we want to emerge as a national powerhouse, we obviously need to work hard in strength and conditioning to work to get better in the off-season," Drake said. "One of our goals is to make nationals, and I think we've positioned ourselves well after the fall. Our job is not done yet. There are still a lot of team goals we want to accomplish."

Managing Editor Allison Schmidt can be reached at Allison.Schmidt@wartburg.edu

Rich Rites

CHICAGO SECOND TO EVERYONE

The NHL season started this week after taking a year off. To most hockey fans, this is reason to celebrate. I, for one, am not.

It's not because I'm mad at the NHL for the strike. I'm glad to see things are resolved and the Zamboni driver is back in action.

It's not because I've become so engrossed in other sports that I've lost interest in the NHL. This is far from the truth, and I can't wait until December when nothing else good is on to watch in the middle of the week.

No, the reason I'm not celebrating this year's NHL season is for one simple reason: Chicago.



Richard Podhajsky
Sports Editor

The "Windy City" has been tormented by its sports teams for decades, whether it be by a curse or a retirement or simply poor management. Chicago has suffered more pain and agony because of its sports teams in the last decade than most cities see in a century.

But, for one winter, Chicago got a break from watching the Blackhawks allow more goals than dead people voted in the last city election. They could instead focus their wallowing on the "Baby Bulls" and the "Bad News Bears."

Now the NHL has returned to the "Second City," and so there are three sports for its citizens to drown its sorrows over.

The only good the Blackhawks give is that they are consistent. They don't tease like the White Sox and Cubs do. The Blackhawks make sure they have no chance of making the playoffs from the very beginning, leaving their fans in a state of cozy dreadfulness.

This year appears to be no different. The Blackhawks started off this season with a 5-3 loss to Anaheim, once again getting off on the wrong (or right) foot.

And the season only promises more disappointment. Chicago is on its seventh coach in the last 10 years. Not a good sign.

The Blackhawks also went out and grabbed six free agents. While most of the new players are high profile acquisitions, that much change is not usually good.

Chicago is not known for being a place where high profile players come to get one last ring. It's usually where they go to prove they need to retire (see Todd Hundley).

Of course, Chicago has some positive things going for it right now: the White Sox are in the playoffs, the Bears were on top of their division, even though they have a losing record, and the Bulls are still .500.

So, please NHL, couldn't you let these people live in mediocrity? If you must come back, could you at least give them a sporting chance? All they want is one winner out of five teams. Is that so much to ask?

By the way this season has started, it seems the answer to that question is yes.

DRAKE DESERVES SOME LOVE

In case you missed it, this weekend the Wartburg women's golf team won the Iowa Conference — by 69 strokes.

This margin of victory set an IIAC record, something that usually garners accolades for the coach. Apparently, that is not a set rule.

Wartburg head coach Oliver Drake was not given the coach of the year award despite the fact his team won the IIAC for a second consecutive year, setting a record in doing so and having the medalist for the tournament.

This leaves one question for the IIAC coaches: where's the love?

Richard Podhajsky can be reached at Richard.Podhajsky@wartburg.edu